GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:604
ANSWERED ON:02.12.2015
Cloned SIM Card
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Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the case of cloning of SIM cards thereby stealing the data has come to light recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the suggestion of Ministry of Home Affairs thereon and the action taken up by the Ministry;

(c) whether the matters related to use of SIM cards manufactured in China is under investigation and if so, whether the Government proposes to ban the use of SIM cards manufactures in China;

(d) if so, the details thereof and the names of mobile companies using SIM cards imported from China; and

(e) the action taken by the Government to expand and promote SIM card manufacturing in India under 'Make in India'?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
(SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD)

(a) &(b) Madam, No such case of Cloning of SIM card thereby stealing the data has come to the notice.

(c) &(d) As per the License conditions the Telecom Service Providers are free to procure telecom equipment from any country based on techno-commercial considerations. As per Foreign Trade Policy, SIM cards can be imported freely into the country.

(e) SIM Module which is a semiconductor chip is not currently manufactured in the country. To promote Electronic manufacturing in the country the government has instituted a Modified Special Incentive Package Scheme (MSIPS) which has been extended by further five years from July 2015. The MSIP Scheme covers 29 verticals of Electronic System Design and Manufacturing (ESDM) which include the verticals of Semiconductor wafering, Semiconductor chips and components and fabs for ESDM products.